

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, breastfeeding promotes early maternal and infant bonding and encourages the development of communication skills between mother and child which help build trust and a sense of security; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is an important component of infant nutrition, contributing significantly to early health, growth and development by providing babies with an ideal balance of nutrients and a high degree of natural immunity against infection and allergies; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and other health care professionals and organizations recognize breastfeeding as a preferred method of feeding for a majority of infants; and

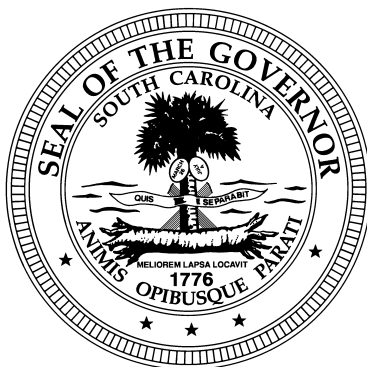
WHEREAS, research shows that breastfed babies have fewer ear and gastrointestinal infections and are less likely to develop respiratory infections, allergies, childhood diabetes, and childhood lymphoma; and

WHEREAS, women who breastfeed reduce their chances of developing premenopausal breast cancer, cervical cancer, osteoporosis and iron deficiency anemia.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 2004 as

BREASTFEEDING MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the positive impact of breastfeeding on the health and well-being of mothers and infants across the Palmetto State.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA